

While I know that people on the coasts of the United States have ready access to radio stations, we in the western U.S. have more difficulty receiving clear, consistent signals. That is particularly true in areas that are not served with a lot of choices, either because of geographic or low-population problems. Many times I have been travelling through western Kansas and eastern Colorado, or through northern Arizona and New Mexico, and found few choices available on AM or FM radio. The same thing is true travelling through the mountains of Colorado, where physical and weather conditions can make it difficult to get reception.

In those areas, I believe it is essential to have translators available to carry service from high powered services like National Public Radio or K-LOVE to areas that would not normally receive an adequate signal. While it would be nice to have other choices available, reality in these areas is that other providers would not be "taking up the slack" to provide service if the translators are no longer available - if they would, they would already be on the air, since there is plenty of unused bandwidth already available in those areas.

Additionally, I believe the types of programming provided by groups like National Public Radio and K-LOVE fills a needed niche not available through other outlets. This is not programming easily available through normal media sources, but useful and information content that adds to the community.

Please keep translator service available in these under-served areas, and thank you for your consideration.